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SUNDAY, MAY 16, 1915.

A Line o' Cheer Each Day o' the Year.

By JOHN KENDRICK BANGS.

First printing of an original poem, written daily for The Washington Herald.

PLAY.

Labor, labor, as ye may.
Strive and toil day after day.
It can bring you little rue
If among the tasks you do
Now and then you pause to play.
Play's the seasoning for toil;
Salt and pepper of our quest,
Giving savor to the spoil
Wrung from labor's daily test.

(Copyright, 1915.)

Still, we must remember that Dernberg is not a citizen.

We are one hundred millions, but we need only one.

Dr. Dernberg is to leave the United States. Hurrah!

It might be well for "Griff" to remember that a house divided against itself cannot stand.

Herman Ridder says America should uphold the President's note to Germany. America is doing that very thing and will continue.

Some difference between "Mother" Jones and "Carrie" Nation! "Mother" Jones admits she lives wherever there's a fight and "Carrie" always said she fought wherever she went.

Practically every newspaper in the United States has given proof that the American citizen will not countenance the murder of Americans. The mad Kaiser must realize this.

The mere fact that Charles Frohman, considered America's richest theatrical man, left but $350,000, clearly indicates that he believed in the loftiness of art and not the dollarness thereof.

Eva Tanguay says the days of ten-cent baseball in big league cities is coming. Another exposition of the fact that even an actress ought not talk of something she knows nothing about.

Oh, the awfulness of coming out in the newspapers with one's views on the note to the Kaiser. Here T. R. has been dropped from the roll of the League of Old German Students and of the General German Language League!

Children in the public schools of Chattanooga, Tenn., draw maps of South America on which they indicate by marks all places where goods manufactured in their city are sold. This is a pointer for the business men of the United States.

Pacifists will please note this dispatch from Dallas: Mrs. Wendell Spence, vice president of that city's peace association, says "I am opposed to war but if our country is subjected to insult I will willingly give my four sons to assist in wiping out that insult." Here, too.

Boys of Williamsport, Pa., are to have a college opportunity that boys in other cities may well envy. Through the will of the late A. D. Hermance, funds are eventually to be made available sufficient to give every deserving graduate of the high school $500 a year for four years while attending college.

"While it was taking a fleet of 100 fast ships six months to bring a million soldiers to America from Germany, we could be doing something in the way of defense," says a writer in the Public Ledger. This writer should pause a bit and then read Hudson Maxim's story of how 100,000 foemen could take this country and hold it.

Every immigrant child arriving at a United States port of entry will henceforth be reported immediately to the school authorities in the locality to which he is destined, so that he may be placed in school without loss of time and without danger of being shunted off into unlawful employment. This shows what Uncle Sam is doing to help the melting pot.

While the United States is doing its best to prevent the extinction of the seal, owners of sealing vessels are planning to scour the seas and get all they can. Their latest scheme is to employ aviators to locate the few herds that are left and do to them the same as was done to the buffalo a generation or so ago. The wild pigeon is a thing of the past, the buffalo is to be found only in parks and private preserves and unless stringent measures be adopted by all countries the seal is doomed.

It is pointed out that about 100,000 children between the ages of 5 and 16 enter the United States annually; 85 per cent of these come from non-English speaking countries, particularly from Southern Italy, Poland, Russia, Lithuania, and other Eastern and Southern European and Asiatic countries. Unless these children come into contact with American life through the public school, they are likely to grow up ignorant of American institutions and thoroughly unfit for citizenship. It is up to the American people to see that our future citizens become real Americans.

Political Situation.

If this were the spring of 1916 instead of 1915 President Wilson might view with satisfaction the prospect of a serious clash with Germany.

Notwithstanding the peaceful proclivities of Secretary Bryan and Secretary Daniels the fighting spirit in the American people is not dead. They are slow to engage in a quarrel, but when aroused by an attack upon the nation's honor they display the same qualities which led their ancestors to resent British oppression and to conquer the wilderness from savage tribes. They have always paid tribute to the fighter. Washington's command of the army in the Revolutionary war led to his unanimous choice as President; Andrew Jackson's victory at New Orleans paved the way for his election; the fighting qualities of Zachary Taylor and William Henry Harrison landed them in the White House; and Grant's great generalship obscured the fact that he was not a statesman and made him as victorious at the polls as he had been with his armies. After the successful outcome of the war with Spain no Democrat could have defeated William McKinley for re-election. There is one exception to the rule. President Polk was not re-elected after the war with Mexico, but every one knows that upon the merits of that conflict there was a serious division of public sentiment.

So that, at present, President Wilson is riding upon a wave of popularity because he has had the patriotism and courage to firmly rebuke Germany for the massacre of the helpless passengers upon the Lusitania. The commendation which he is receiving is nonpartisan. Former President Taft, Gov. Willis of Ohio, and many other prominent Republicans, have publicly indorsed his action, and it may be set down for certain that should occasion arise for still more determined action, party lines would be forgotten in the effort to uphold the hands of the President.

But, unfortunately for the Democrats, this is not a Presidential year. Twelve months must elapse before the people are called upon to choose their candidates for President, and the election is still a year and a half distant. This is a long time to wait. Many things may happen within the next eighteen months.

There is a possibility of a poltical boomerang in the German situation. If Germany should politely inform us that it is none of our business how she conducts a war in which we have no concern; if she should reply that in furnishing arms and munitions of war, as well as foodstuffs to the allies, we have aided and abetted her enemies; and if she should ask us to use our good offices to raise the embargo which Great Britain has placed upon the entrance of food into Germany, the President would have another note to write. One remembers, with some misgiving, the demand which was made upon Mexico to salute the American flag as reparation for the Tampico incident. Has the flag been saluted? Not yet. The army and navy went to Vera Cruz and then came back again. What has been done to protect American lives and property in Mexico? Nothing. The murder of American citizens in that alleged republic still continues, and confiscation and pillage are unchecked. The history of the administration's dealings with the Mexican situation is one of vacillation. In May, 1914, in an authorized interview, the President announced that he would insist upon the settlement of the agrarian land question in Mexico and upon the ousting of the de facto control of the government of the republic. In January, 1915, he announced, in a speech in Indianapolis, that it was nobody's business how long the Mexicans might be in determining how they worked out their own salvation. In the meantime, more American lives have been lost in Mexico through the failure of this government to demand and enforce an observance of treaty rights than were lost in the Lusitania tragedy.

It is with these facts in mind that the American people are dubiously awaiting the outcome, and it is because of these things that the effect of the trouble with Germany upon our political situation cannot be accurately predicted. If we should merely walk up a hill and then down again, as did the famous King of France, and as we did in Mexico, there would be no credit to the administration, and the people would manifest their disapproval at the polls. It is easy to see, therefore, that the President is treading on thin ice. In other words, he has yet to make good. To an impartial observer it looks as if he were between the devil and the deep blue sea. His own inclinations are against war, and the men at the head of the diplomatic and naval branches of the government are equally antagonistic. He must know, also, that the country is not prepared for war, and that it seems absurd to talk of fighting an enemy thousands of miles away. He must know, further, that any proposition to send American troops to fight with the French and English and Belgians in the trenches on a foreign soil would be most unpopular. What then is to be the outcome?

The answer to that important question rests solely with the future. But upon the answer also depends, in very large measures, the result of the next Presidential election. It is just possible that before the next campaign is fully on we may be in serious foreign entanglements. Should this be the situation, the usual political issues would be forgotten. Everything would be swallowed up in the necessity of standing shoulder to shoulder in the upholding of the national honor. But if, on the other hand, our bluff to Germany should be called and we should meekly lay our cards upon the table, the present wave of popular enthusiasm would be succeeded by universal ridicule, and the administration would become a laughing stock everywhere. The President, however, has burned his bridges behind him. He must now go forward or else repeat the Mexican fiasco and this would mean popular condemnation.

If, as already intimated, the present situation was on the eve of an election, it is reasonable to believe that the people would re-elect President Wilson in order to afford him opportunity to solve the problem in his own way. The probability is, however, that the matter will be ended before the campaign really commences. If we emerge with glory President Wilson may confidently appeal for continued support; but if, on the other hand, the administration merely blusters, without effect, it will be but another nail in the Democratic coffin.

"Forty-two steaks for lunch and ten turkeys for dinner," was the order telephoned to the butcher by the chef at Gen. Huerta's Long Island home. The former Mexican dictator must be entertaining his army preparatory to going back home.

Reorganization of the Civil Service.

The Herald published recently the substance of a speech made at a smoker of the Trowel Club by Mr. Sam Houston Carr, of the Interior Department, in which the speaker outlined a plan for the reorganization of the civil service of the Federal government. Mr. Carr was attached to the advisory law commission which drafted the civil service law for the republic of Cuba during the last American intervention in that island.

The proposed plan may appear, at first glance, to be almost revolutionary in its scope and extent. In the main, it would provide for the establishment by the Congress of a department of the civil service, with a Cabinet officer at its head. It was maintained by the author of the scheme of reorganization that, as the civil service now embraces between 360,000 and 370,000 persons, it is too big a thing to be administered by a commission which, in the nature of things governmental, is limited in its powers and hampered in its activities because of that fact.

The basis upon which the reorganization, as proposed, is developed is centralization of administration and the creation within the department of corps, such as engineer, law, quartermaster, pay, medical, nautical and other corps divisions to which professional men and other expert specialists shall be assigned, and who shall retain their connections with their respective corps, although detailed to any executive department requiring their services for longer or shorter periods. This corps system, it is believed by the advocates of the plan, will result in greater mobility and more efficient and economical dispatch of the public business. As a remedy for possibilities of injustice and discrimination toward the personnel of the civil service, no individual would, if the plan becomes a law, be dismissed or demoted until after a hearing and finding of facts by a court of inquiry to be detailed by the secretary of the civil service for the purpose, as in cases of courts martial in the army and navy.

When it is remembered that a great many of the men who are in the service of the government are persons of high professional and technical attainments, the merit of protecting them from petty persecution at the hands of bureau or division chiefs or political spoilsmen is readily apparent. The late Henry Gannett, as president of the Geographic Society, was called upon to pass upon the evidence presented by Admiral Peary in support of his claims to polar discovery; and the recent investigations into processes for obtaining vastly superior results from the by-products of petroleum, by Dr. Rittman, of the Bureau of Mines, are cases in point illustrating the professional standing of many of the men in the civil service. It is customary to refer to these and other men of similar attainments as "government employes" or "government clerks," under the present order of things.

Mr. Carr predicates his proposal for the creation of a department of the civil service upon the ground that there is, at present, no civil service in the real sense of the word, as understood when compared with the diplomatic and consular services and the two branches, military and naval, of the armed forces. In other words, the civil service is not a career, as at present conducted. There are a number of laws and innumerable regulations for the hiring and dismissal of "government employes;" but there is no constituted organization, as would result from the adoption of his plan.

The Cleveland commission on economy and efficiency, in its reports to the President, urged the centralization of administrative functions in the Treasury Department, and undertook to show that a great saving in money and time would be effected by such a procedure. Mr. Carr claims that a saving of 33 1-3 per cent would result in wages and salaries, which are now approximately $400,000,000 per annum, as well as an equally large saving in the matter of mileage, per diem, auditing and other expenses, by eliminating duplication of work, if we go a few steps further than the Cleveland commission proposed, centralizing the entire civil service, making one department, from which center details for service would be made, as needed, as is done by the War Department in the cases of Gens. Goethals and Gorgas, who were detailed for service on the Panama Canal construction; and as is frequently done by the same department in detailing army engineers and surgeons for works of purely civil administration, those officers never losing their corps identity and always being used where their services may be desired.

If some such plan can be worked out, by which a saving of one-third can be effected in appropriations for the administration of the government, the problem of retiring the comparatively small number of superannuated people on pensions would be greatly simplified. It, at least, merits careful consideration.

Investment Market Brisk.

Almost 90 per cent of the Pennsylvania Railroad's issue of $05,000,000 has been sold. The investment situation, then, is very little affected by foreign events on land and sea. Three railroads have put out $205,000,000 of notes and bonds in a fortnight, and nearly all of these have been marketed. There is plenty of capital ready for safe investment. Speculation is checked, and the country can get along very well without speculative prices.—Philadelphia Record.

The German-American Vote.

We are told by some eminent Prussians who are interfering with American politics that "if the German-American vote stood solidly together on any issue it could control a national election." But there is no German-American vote. Americans of German descent are for the most part plain Americans. The number of them voted from Berlin is about equal to the number of British-Americans who are ruled by King George.—New York World.

Good Times After the War?

Certain economists are showing that no matter how much the war wastes, good times follow. Good times for whom? Good times for the widows who take in washing? Good times for the countless orphans left to struggle with a poor equipment of schooling? Good times for the generations yet unborn who must pay the interest on the public debt of $44,000,000,000? Out of the war and out of the panic which will follow it the knowing bankers and speculators will reap huge fortunes, but the plain people who do the fighting must pay the last farthing. Very likely there will be high wages in Europe, and with them high prices. It is suggested that the cost of the war will be compensated for by cutting down the cost of armaments. Who can say that the war will not breed a fear which will demand even greater armaments? No one really believed the war would come, and no one really knows where it will flounder or what disaster will follow in its wake.—Brooklyn Eagle.

WATSON TELLS ABOUT 'PHONE'S INVENTION

Dr. Alexander Graham Bell Spoke First Words to Him Over Arrangement Made Possible by Chance and Planning.

A hitherto unpublished manuscript written by Thomas A. Watson, coworker with Alexander Graham Bell, on the actual incidents, disappointments, and dramatic successes leading up to the first words spoken over the first telephone.

This is the story of Thomas A. Watson, a shipbuilder of New England, the man who stood in the little laboratory of Alexander Graham Bell, in Boston, Mass., on March 10, 1876, and heard his own name in the first workable telephone receiver, the first intelligible words ever spoken over a telephone wire. It is the story of the man who again heard those exact words spoken on March 10, 1915, over a telephone wire that stretched from New York to San Francisco, in all the glory of a transcontinental mastery of sound and space, and who is now still hale and hearty and predicts that he will still live to hear the same historic words spoken by telephone clear around the globe. Dr. Bell was the sole discoverer of the telephone and Mr. Watson alone was present with the inventor at its birth. It was in the factory of Charles Williams at 109 Court street, Boston, that the first mechanical work on the telephone was done. It was invented in 1875, but the real birthday of the instrument was on March 10, 1876 when the commonplace words over the first wire were spoken. It was in 1890 Mr. Watson wrote for the first time his account of that event, but being caled away on business connected with suits over patent rights then pending in the courts and the article has never been printed before now.

Heard First Words Spoken.

In reviewing his manuscript for this publication, Mr. Watson said:

"I believe this gives you the truest and best record of the birth of the telephone that will ever be printed. I was the only witness. I heard the first words. They were my own name. This article embodies the essential details of the invention."

He allowed a photograph to be made of the coil of wire over which the first words were transmitted, the wire that Dr. Bell used in perfecting his invention, with the memorandum attached as he wrote it when the wire was taken down July 8, 1877.

Mr. Watson's account of the birth of the telephone follows:

"It was my good fortune to have been associated with Alexander Graham Bell during the whole of his famous experiments by which the telephone was developed, which the crude and imperfect form into a commercial success. I was employed by him to embody in practical form his ideas. I assisted in the tests of his telephone apparatus and heard the first words ever transmitted by an electric-speaking telephone. These are my recollections:

"Nearly a year before the first experiment on the speaking telephone was made, Mr. Bell was at work developing an invention that he called 'the harmonic telegraph.' This was an improvement on the Morse system. It aimed to utilize the well-known law of sympathetic vibration and transmit simultaneously without confusion a large number of Morse dot and dash messages over a single wire.

Bell Explained Idea.

"My intimacy with him and first knowledge of his ideas of the speaking telephone date from the experiments in the early '70s. I vividly remember when he first told me that he was convinced that the telegraphing of speech was a possibility and explained to me his theoretical conception of the principles on which the development of the idea must depend, a conception since proved correct by the fact that the entire development of the telephone to its present state has been in exact accordance with this original idea.

"As he then expressed it, the translation of the timber, or quality of any sound, or of articulate speech, can only be effected by some instrument in which the air, vibrating under the influence of sound, shall impress on an electric current analogous vibrations. This kind of electric current he named 'undulatory current' to distinguish it from a rapid make-or-break or intermittent current.

"That such an apparatus was theoretically possible he had no doubt. In fact, he had already sketched and described a, complicated instrument of the kind, but had not sufficient confidence that it would operate practically to risk the large expenditure needed for its construction. Yet, as if impelled to devote himself to electrical matters, he was giving his attention to his harmonic telegraph system; which, although widely difficult from the speaking telephone, is interesting as having directly led to the discovery that his theoretical conception was capable of practical application.

Systematic Vibrations.

"A brief description of the simple apparatus used in the harmonic telegraph instrument is necessary to an understanding of this most important discovery. As has been stated, Mr. Bell's harmonic telegraph is based on the well-known law of sympathetic vibration. This law may be illustrated by sounding a note either with the voice or with any musical instrument near the undampened strings of a piano. The string that is tuned to the pitch of the uttered sound will then be set into strong vibration, while the rest of the strings will be practically soundless. If two notes are sounded simultaneously only the two corresponding strings will respond.

"A variation of this experiment would be to put an electro-magnet under each of the piano strings that are not harmonics, connecting all the magnets together in one circuit with an electric battery. If, now, by any means the electric current of the battery is regularly interrupted a certain number of times per second, corresponding to the normal rate of vibrations of one of the strings, although all the magnets will pull and release their string at the same rate per second, only the string that naturally vibrates at this rate will be set into vibration. The others will remain silent as in the first experiment.

"The difference in the two experiments lies in the fact that in the first place the rythmic impulses that set the string into vibration were conveyed directly through the air, while in the second case they acted through the electro-magnet.

"If two or more rates per second of these current interruptions are made simultaneously each set will cause its corresponding string to vibrate, and by extending the wire to a distant point and placing the interrupter in circuit there it is a simple matter to send several messages simultaneously by using a differently pitched interrupter for each message.

Used Turned Steel Springs.

"In the apparatus used by Mr. Bell, instead of the stretched strings of a piano, he used flat steel springs, tuned to different pitches by the variation of their lengths and thicknesses. His instrument for receiving the signals was merely one of these springs, clamped by one end to a pole of an electro-magnet, while its free end projected over the other pole near enough to feel the effect of an electric current passing through the magnet coil, but far enough away to be able to vibrate without touching anything.

"His transmitter, or curent interrupter, was somewhat similar. But here each spring was kept in constant vibration by an electro magnet, and a contact screw was so plated that the spring would touch it at every vibration. This afforded a means of interrupting the electric current a number of times per second, corresponding to the pitch of the spring, and, by tuning the springs of the receivers and connecting both receivers and transmitters to the line wire with the proper signal keys and a battery the same number of messages as there were pitches could be transmitted simultaneously. Each receiver will only respond when the electric pulsations pass that correspond in number per second to the pitch of its spring.

"Theoretically this system was very simple and perfect, and though it has been perfected and put into practical use, at the time of which I write, it was far from perfection. The apparatus acted in a very irregular and unsatisfactory manner, and Mr. Bell was devoting all the time he could spare from his work as professor of vocal physiology at the Boston University to a course of experiments by which he sought to overcome the defects of the invention and make a practical thing of it.

"The rooms in which the experiments were carried on were situated in the attic of the building at 109 Court street, Boston, used at that time for manufacturing purposes by Charles Williams, jr., of Somerville. Our improvised telegraph wire was hung up on the rafters and ran from one room to the other.

Transmitters Would Not Buzz.

"So much for the harmonic telegraph. Now for its connection with the beginning of the telephone.

"On the afternoon of June 2, 1875, I was helping Mr Bell test some improvements that he had made in his apparatus. We had placed a set of transmitters and receivers in the room where I was stationed and connected them by wire with corresponding recivers in Mr. Bell's room.

"The afternoon was a very hot one and the baking atmosphere of those attic rooms was not conducive to energetic work. The apparatus seemed to feel the effects of the weather. It had never been so perverse.

"The transmitters would not buzz. The receivers would not respond. Instead of responding sharply and distinctly to the signals I was sending from the transmitters the springs of the receivers would stick to their magnets and remain silent.

"Ordinarily we would have worked and searched until we had remedied this perverseness, but that time of weariness and discouragement was the darkness before the dawn of the speaking telephone. Bell's grand idea of a current of electricity which shall vary in intensity as the air varies in density during the production of a sound was nearing its practical realization. And the events of that afternoon were destined to deprive the harmonic telegraph of all its interest except as a stepping stone to a far greater invention.

"Mr. Bell, in an endeavor to improve the working of the receivers, was retuning one of their springs to ascertain if the pitch was correct. He had pressed it against his ear and was listening to the faint sound of the intermittent current passing through the magnet—a sound which could always be heard in that way whether the spring was correctly tuned or not.

Discovered by Accident.

"All at once the spring of the transmitter in my room stopped vibrating and I snapped it with my finger to start it. Instantly an excited shout came from the other room, and Mr. Bell rushed in demanding what I had done. I explained.

"'Do it again,' said he, and I snapped the spring the rest of that afternoon and so late in the evening that the janitor, forgeting us, locked us in.

"What has happened?

"Simply this: The spring that I had plucked had become permanently magnetized and was in condition by its vibration to generate the sought-for undulatory electric current. This it did when I snapped it. And when this current passed through the magnet of the receiver which was pressed against Mr. Bell's ear it set into vibration the spring of that instrument, which spring, being confined against his ear, was in a condition to vibrate as a diaphram, and not merely as a free reed.

"The trained acoustician at once perceived that instead of the harsh naval scream of the intermittent current of the harmonic transmitter, much like the cry of the cicada on a hot summer day, he heard loudly and clearly, not merely the pitch due to the length of the spring that I was plucking, but the peculiar soft twang of that identical spring, and recognized instantly that the electric current carrying such a sound was realizing his long-cherished idea of an undulatory current that, in order to transmit speech or the quality of any sound, must vary in force exactly as air varies in density during the production of that sound.

Instrument He Wanted.

"He saw that he had here the instrument he had so long sought; that if this apparatus could transmit the quality or timber of one sound it could easily be made to do the same for any sound or any combination of sounds, and, consequently, that most complex vibration—the sound of the human voice.

"Such an undulatory current as undoubtedly had been generated many times before, but never before had it reached the ear of a man whose mind had been prepared by years of thought and scientific training to perceive instantly what it meant and could be made to accomplish for the service of man. Such a man was Alexander Graham Bell.

"The real invention of the speaking telephone was no accident. That dates from the mental conception of the undulatory electric current. The plucking of the spring that afternoon we may call an accident, but the man with a clear conception in his mind was there to grasp its meaning and turn that accident into a great historical event. Apples fell before Newton was born and cows ate them.

"From that afternoon, during the long course of experiments that followed before the telephone was ready for practical use, in spite of discouragements, I never knew Mr. Bell's enthusiasm and confidence in the efficiency of his methods of transmitting speech electrically to flag for one moment. To one not familiar with the science of acoustics, some further explanation of the occurrence of the afternoon may not be amiss. Vibrations caused in the air by the sound of the voice or by any sound may be likened in complexity to the waves on the surface of a pond on a windy day. The set of large waves correspond to the pitch of sound, and the small waves, running over these larger waves, correspond to the quality of the sound, or that which distinguishes the sound, say of a violin from a sound of the same pitch from a cornet.

"Up to this time all attempts to transmit speech electrically had been by means of an intermittent or interrupted electric current and had, in consequence, been failures, for the intermittent current corresponds to and carries only the larger of these sound waves and absolutely fails to carry the innumerable small waves that are superposed on the larger waves.

"Without these small waves, or overtones, the character of the sound coming from the receiving instrument is entirely changed and bears no resemblance to the original sound. It would be impossible to tell whether it came from a cornet, a piano, a violin, or the voice. The result in the receiving instrument will always be the same harsh, nasal drone, but the current generated by the vibration of the maknetized spring that was snapped had in it all the delicate overtone waves, as well as the higher pitch waves, and the fact that the sound that Mr. Bell heard coming from the receiver to which he was listening was exactly the same as that produced by snapping such a spring in the air was to his mind conclusive evidence of this.

"That afternoon for the first time in human history all the waves of a sound were impressed on an electric current, carried by it over a wire, changed back into sound by an apparatus sufficiently sensitive to respond to such delicate vibrations and observed by a scientist whose training had qualified him to appreciate its importance.

Goal Was in Sight.

"But the telephone did not yet quite speak; it merely murmured, for the results of the first tests of the new machine were not very encouraging. After this one bright glimpse, Mr. Bell had been allowed to take into the secrets of nature, the goddess seemed to have grown stingy again and shut the door in his face. But the poor results obtained were due mainly to the fact that we still had to learn to use the new machine. And it seemed as if a long apprenticeship in its use had to be served even after the machine itself had been found.

"Mr. Bell now resigned his position at the Boston University, transferred his apparatus to a laboratory which he had fitted up in the boarding place, 5 Exeter Place (Boston), since torn down and rebuilt as a commercial block, and gave all his attention to the telephone. After that improvement was constant, though slow.

"From the afternoon of June 2, 1875, the goal was in sight, and no discouragement, no perverseness of instruments, no financial difficulties ever lessened the enthusiasm of the man whose conception it was.

"Although a long and wearisome course of experimenting was necessary along the road leading to it, yet no discouragements—and they were many—ever lessened the enthusiasm of the man whose mind had grasped the immense possibilities of the future, nor did they diminish his confidence in his ability to produce finally an electric-speaking telephone that would not only speak as a matter of scientific interest, but would speak well enough to bear the harsh tests of business and social life.

Commonplace Message.

"The first time that the telephone ever uttered intelligible words was on March 10, 1876, and it is certainly to be regretted that on so special an occasion the telephone was not on dress parade. There is nothing in the history of the tele-

CONTINUED ON PAGE TEN.

THE OPEN FORUM.

In Which Readers of The Herald Express Their Views on Current Topics.

Editor of The Washington Herald—I cannot express my sentiments, and mature opinion, concerning the Lusitania murder in any better way than I have in the following:

Arise, ye shades of olden days! Again put forth your might
For our country in its conflict 'gainst the wrong and for the right!
O, thou Father of Our Country, from thy place within the sun,
Light the fire of Patrick Henry; wake the soul of Hamilton;
Give us Lincoln for our helmsman; send us Grant to lead the fight,
And we'll all take up the battle: We will cease from being "polite."

For we'll drown, drown, drown the German Kaiser,
We will wipe his "Kultur" from the earth!
Smith and Jones and me and you,
Let us raise our flag anew
As we avenge the cause for which it stands!

For a devil rocks the earth,
And he murders in his mirth,
And that devil's His Imperial German Kaiser!

Let us rally to our standard—to the Red and White and Blue—
And let it go forth to battle for what's right and good and true:
We'll not sacrifice its honor, and just contemplate the blow
That has sent a thousand "beggars" to be fuel for "down below:"
But we'll sacrifice ourselves; but we'll see the hell fiend damned;
And we'll drown the German Kaiser with von Tirpitz and his band.

We will drown, drown, drown the German Kaiser;
We will wipe his "Kultur" from the earth!
Smith and Jones and me and you,
Let us raise our flag anew,
As we avenge the cause for which it stands!

For a hell fiend rocks the earth,
Murders us in fiendish mirth,
And the hell fiend is the Imperial German Kaiser!

We're a pretty peaceful nation, and our blood boils awful slow,
We're indifferent to "mosquito bites" and many a harder blow;
But we count ourselves the guardian of the future of the race,
And we've got a "special conscience" to keep clean without disgrace.
And though we sometimes slumber and forget the goal ahead,
We will rise to crush a monster, and will leave that monster dead—
A monster that might serve to thwart us, monster that offends the race,
Monster like the German Kaiser, who will shortly lose his place:
For we'll burn the German Kaiser, we will meet his fire with fire—
Which is justice—which we stand for—guardians of "the world's desire."

For we'll crush, smash, burn the German Kaiser;
We will wipe his "Kultur" from the earth!
Smith and Jones and me and you,
Let us raise our flag anew,
As we avenge the cause for which it stands!

For a hell fiend rocks the earth,
Murders children in foul mirth,
And that hell fiend is the Imperial German Kaiser!

—W. P. C. A native-born citizen, who will help.

Uncle Sam Can Get Ready.

Editor of The Washington Herald: That fierce gray bird, the American eagle, is screaming some in these days, and now that he has found his voice and spirit again, let us see what he can do with his beak and talons, if occasion comes for it.

The United States has the plants, the men and the money, and can build torpedo boats and destroyers—and submarines if needed—as fast as Germany or any other maritime power in existence. Such ships are quickly built at relatively small cost, and able to carry guns as effective at close range as battleships.

So if the Kaiser wants more war and proposes to continue to be a bird of prey, why is it not competent for this nation to fill the seas of the so-called war zone around the British islands and Northern France with the craft best able to hunt down and ram his submarines to the bottom of the ocean where they belong.

Naval officers say this should have been done long ago by England and France, and if it had been done the Lusitania would still be afloat; but the British admiralty under its present administration thought it necessary to surround their precious battleships each, with a flotilla of destroyers, and so had none to spare to go out and give battle to German submarines, preying on their passenger ships.

There would be no need to send our battleships and other vessels of the fleet to the scene, except as tenders and onlookers and to see fair play; and in the event of a full declaration of war, we need not send troops to Flanders or the Dardanelles even if we had them to send. The war on our part would be a limited one. We could not invade Germany any more than she could invade us under present conditions, while it is probable that our mosquito fleet would be in sufficient force to soon do the business for hostile submarines.

Our commerce abroad and our general business at home could then pursue the even tenor of its way with equanimity as if no war existed and the gates of the temple of Janus were shut as tight as a drum. H. M. SEALE.

Show Your Colors.

Editor of The Washington Herald: Your issue of today (Thursday) contains much matter calculated to gladden, soberly gladden, the hearts of all true and unhyphenated Americans.

By all means, let us adopt the suggestion of C. Durand Chapman, and wear a button or badge of an American flag or shield, and so openly show our colors. We all did this during the war with Spain; and why not now, when our President has made plain and explicit to a far mightier power the deep intensity of our indignation over the wilful, deliberate, premeditated murder of American men, women and little babes, while lawfully upon the high seas, traveling on an unarmed merchant ship, where the law of nations gave them an absolute right to be. We have in America, in round numbers, about thirty million of denizens of foreign birth or immediate derivation, as against about one hundred and five millions of unquestionable and genuine Americans. While it is true that the one hundred and five million could easily "spank" the thirty millions, they are neither so noisy nor so blatant, not to say offensive, as so many of the thirty millions have recently made themselves, with their hyphenated, unsolicited advice, to the American people and the American government, as to how, just how, the latter should both act and feel. Well, action has come. Why not, by example, make the hyphenatee show their colors, some colors? Not one day has elapsed, since last Saturday, in which the undersigned has not been told by foreigners who have taken the oath of allegiance to the United States, and who are naturalized citizens of the United States, but who are assuredly not Americans, that there are in our free America today more than enough "German" soldiers and "Japanese" soldiers, to "easily lick" the United States. Why not, by gentle, polite, persuasive methods, induce them, the thirty millions, to show their colors, some colors, and so indicate to us how they propose to fight with guns, instead of leather lungs and megaphone vocal chords?

The Constitution of the United States says: "All persons born or naturalized in the United States, and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States." Universal public law says: "The rights of government from the citizens are allegiance and support, while the rights of the citizens from the government are those of protection and of vindication." It is this right of vindication, inhering in all "persons born or naturalized in the United States, and subject to the jurisdiction thereof," which our President has just declared, "with deliberation and with firmness," his intention to regard his oath of office by maintaining.

By all means: let us, with C. Durand Chapman, "show our colors," and with Frank Warren Hackett, that true American and honor to the legal profession, let us "prepare for war." Don't let us, like the hyphenated, run riot in "gabfest," to use a favorite word of "Pra Elbertus" (one of our murdered ones of the "Lusitania.") Let us heed the advice of George Washington: "In time of peace prepare for war." He was no "militarist" in any sense of the term, but was eminently gifted with American "backbone," and American "horse sense."

EDMUND BORROWS BRIGGS.

The German Naval Policy.

Editor of The Washington Herald: It is puzzling to understand the purpose of the German admiralty in attacking merchant ships and failing in the most vital places of the allies, namely the transports that carry tens of thousands of soldiers and enormous quantities of armaments and ammunition to France from England across the English Channel from Dover to Calais. It is well known that not a single attack has been made, where it would be legitimate warfare to make it. Then why attack a merchant vessel known to have a large number of American neutral passengers on board, if it was not with conspired intention to provoke war with this country. The absurdity that any marked result can be accomplished in destroying commerce with the British Isles by these warship assaults occasionally, is transparent when it is a fact that up to date the total destruction of tonnage of vessels did not aggregate as much as the tonnage of the Lusitania alone, and that the shipyards of Great Britain actually launch on an average a boat a day the year round.

If there is any truth in the suspicion that the crime of sinking the Lusitania was hatched up in this country primarily to establish German "frightfulness" and secondarily from business rivals of the Cunard Company, it is a most childish policy, knowing as they must the effect the sinking of the Maine had upon American opinion. ELIJAH E. KNOTT.

How to Treat Dernberg.

Editor of The Washington Herald: In reply to F. C.'s letter in your paper of May 12, I would suggest that the gentleman with the naughty chilly name be dealt with as any other Dernberg which drifts across the bows of our old Ship of State. J. T. C.